

We claim:

(A. Embedded program frequently requests keyboard focus)

5 1. (client method) A method in a network computing device for allowing a user to control playout of an audio/video work via a program embedded in a web page, comprising:

running a program embedded within a web page which:

- 10 a) requests and, so long as it is running, periodically rerequests of an operating system the keyboard focus, and
- b) upon receipt of a keyboard event, determines whether the event represents actuation of an audio/video control key and, if so, effects an action for the playout of an audio/video work.

15 2. The method of claim 1 where said program automatically launches.

3. The method of claim 1 where said program comprises a non human-readable program.

20 4. The method of claim 1 where said program comprises two parts consisting of a first part which causes a browser program to make said rerequests on behalf of a second part which effects an action for the playout of an audio/visual work.

5. The method of claim 1 where said keyboard events representing audio/video control keys comprise key data specifying uncommon text keyboard keys.

25 6. The method of claim 1 where the operating system provides to said program an indication of whether said audio/video control key is on a remote keypad.

7. (server method) A computer method performed on a server computer whereby a computer program is provided by the server across a network to a client computing device, which program, when run on the computing device, causes the device to perform the method of claim 1.

8. The method of claim 7 where said program automatically launches.

9. The method of claim 7 where said program comprises a non human-readable program.

5 10. The method of claim 7 where said program comprises two parts consisting of a first part which causes a browser program to make said rerequests on behalf of a second part which effects an action for the playout of an audio/visual work.

10 11. The method of claim 7 where said keyboard events representing audio/video control keys comprise key data specifying uncommon text keyboard keys.

12. The method of claim 7 where the operating system provides to said program an indication of whether said audio/video control key is on a remote keypad.

15 13. (software) A computer program which, when run on a computing device, causes the device to perform the method of claim 1.

14. The computer program of claim 13 where said program automatically launches.

15. The computer program of claim 13 where said program comprises a non human-readable program.

20 16. The computer program of claim 13 where said program comprises two parts consisting of a first part which causes a browser program to make said rerequests on behalf of a second part which effects an action for the playout of an audio/visual work.

25 17. The computer program of claim 13 where said keyboard events representing audio/video control keys comprise key data specifying uncommon text keyboard keys.

18. The computer program of claim 13 where the operating system provides to said program an indication of whether said audio/video control key is on a remote keypad.

(B. Browser and constituents instruct audio/video control program)

5 19. (client method) A method in a network computing device for allowing a user to control playout of an audio/video work via a pair of programs embedded in a web page, comprising:

- 10 a) running a first program embedded within a web page which, in response to commands from other programs, performs a desired function, and
- 15 b) running a second program embedded within a web page which causes a program associated with a browser family window on the device to determine whether keyboard events received in said window match events intended for said first program and, if they do, issue a command to said first program to perform an action indicated by said keyboard events.

20 20. The method of claim 19 where said first program is a non human-readable program.

21. The method of claim 19 where said second program is a script program executed by a browser program.

22. The method of claim 19 where said browser family window is a browser window.

23. The method of claim 19 where said browser family window is a child window of a browser window.

25 24. The method of claim 19 where said keyboard events comprise key data specifying uncommon text keyboard keys.

25. The method of claim 19 where said first program determines whether said keyboard events were generated in response to actuation on a remote keypad.

5 26. The method of claim 19 where said first program is an audio/video playout control program.

27. The method of claim 19 where said first program, when it receives the keyboard focus, reassigns the keyboard focus to another window.

10 28. (server method) A computer method performed on a server computer whereby a pair of computer programs is provided by the server across a network to a client computing device, which pair of programs, when run on the computing device, causes the device to perform the method of claim 19.

29. The method of claim 28 where said first program is a non human-readable program.

15 30. The method of claim 28 where said second program is a script program executed by a browser program.

31. The method of claim 28 where said browser family window is a browser window.

32. The method of claim 28 where said browser family window is a child window of a browser window.

20 33. The method of claim 28 where said keyboard events comprise key data specifying uncommon text keyboard keys.

34. The method of claim 28 where said first program determines whether said keyboard events were generated in response to actuation on a remote keypad.

25 35. The method of claim 28 where said first program is an audio/video playout control program.

36. The method of claim 28 where said first program, when it receives the keyboard focus, reassigns the keyboard focus to another window.

37. (software) A pair of computer programs which, when run on a computing device, cause the device to perform the method of claim 28.

38. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said first program is a non human-readable program.

5 39. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said second program is a script program executed by a browser program.

40. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said browser family window is a browser window.

10 41. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said browser family window is a browser window.

42. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said browser family window is a child window of a browser window.

43. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said keyboard events comprise key data specifying uncommon text keyboard keys.

15 44. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said first program determines whether said keyboard events were generated in response to actuation on a remote keypad.

45. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said first program is an audio/video playout control program.

20 46. The pair of computer programs of claim 37 where said first program, when it receives the keyboard focus, reassigns the keyboard focus to another window.

(C. Multiple keyboard focuses)

25 47. (method) A method in a computing device for allowing a user to enter text and control playout of an audio/video work, comprising:

- a) receiving from a user a selection of a text application program to receive a text keyboard focus;

- b) receiving from the user a selection of an audio/video application program to receive an audio/video keyboard focus; and
- c) directing text key event data to said text application program and concurrently directing audio/video key event data to said audio/video application program.

48. The method of claim 47 where said audio/video application program is a client of a key event data server program which receives key event data from audio/video keys.

49. The method of claim 47 where an improved operating system provides for user control of said audio/video keyboard focus independently of said text keyboard focus.

50. (software) A computer program which, when run on a computing device, causes the computing device to perform the method of claim 47.

51. The program of claim 50 where said audio/video application program is a client of a key event data server program which receives key event data from audio/video keys.

52. The program of claim 50 where an improved operating system provides for user control of said audio/video keyboard focus independently of said text keyboard focus.

53. (device) A computing device allowing a user to enter text and control playout of an audio/video work, comprising:

- (a) audio/video control keys;
- (b) text keys; and
- (c) a processor with a control program having:

a focus control which directs to a selected text application key events generated by actuation of said text keys; as well as

- a focus control which directs to a selected audio/video application key events generated by actuation of said audio/video control keys.

54. The device of claim 53 where said audio/video application program is a client of a key event data server program which receives key event data from said audio/video control keys.

55. The device of claim 53 where an improved operating system provides for user control of said audio/video keyboard focus independently of said text keyboard focus.

56. The device of claim 53 where the processor provides to said selected audio/video application an indication of whether an actuated audio/video control key is on a remote keypad.

D. Distinction between short-range key presses and long-range key presses

57. (device) A computing device with a local keypad and a remote key pad where an action of the device is determined in part by whether a key is pressed on the local keyboard or the remote keyboard, comprising:

- (a) keys on a local key pad;
- (b) keys on a remote keypad; and

a processor with a control program which provides key event data to an application program and indicates to said application program whether an associated key event was generated on the remote key pad.

58. The device of claim 57 where said application program is a client of a key event data server program which receives key event data from said remote key pad.

59. The device of claim 57 where the control program is an operating system program.

60. The device of claim 57 where said application program is an audio/video control program.

61. The device of claim 57 where said action is, in response to a remote key press, to present a display in a format that is larger than a similar display presented in response to a local key press.

62. (method) A method in a computing device with a local keypad and a remote key pad where an action of the device is determined in part by whether a key is pressed on the local keyboard or the remote keyboard, comprising:

- (a) receiving key event data from a press of a key on a remote key pad which key press signifies a desired action to an application program running on said device;
- (b) providing to said application program said key event data along with an indication that said key event was generated on a remote keypad; and
- (c) as a result of which, said application program performs an action which is different from an action than it would perform in response to a key press on a local keyboard signifying the desired action.

63. The method of claim 62 where said application program is a client of a key event data server program which receives key event data from said remote keypad.

64. The method of claim 62 where an operating system program performs step b.

65. The method of claim 62 where said application program is an audio/video control program.

66. The method of claim 62 where said action is, in response to a remote key press, to present a display in a format that is larger than a similar display presented in response to a local key press.

67. (software) A computer program which, when run on a computing device, causes the computing device to perform the method of claim 62.

68. The program of claim 67 where said application program is a client of a key event data server program which receives key event data from said remote keypad.

70. The program of claim 67 where said application program is an audio/video control program.

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